

Method of producing logos or color codes for weight plates and weight heads

DESCRIPTION

Background of Invention

(Para 1) The present invention relates generally to fitness equipment and weight lifting; especially to the method of producing private logos, poundage numbers or color codes or other desired labels for weight plates used on the "free weights" system where the weight plates can be added to or removed from the lifting bar at the choice of individual users.

(Para 2) There are also cost benefits even for fitness equipment where the weight is fixed at certain poundage by using "weight heads", such as dumbbells.

(Para 3) For purpose of invention disclosure in this application, weight plates would also encompass weight heads, unless specifically stated otherwise.

(Para 4) For the protection of gym floor and other fitness equipment, and reducing noise level when working out, weight plates nowadays are coated with non-metallic material such as rubber, urethane, polyurethane, over the machined steel or cast iron core that make up the weight plates.

(Para 5) Most weight plates are black or in solid colors chosen by the merchants or the gyms who ordered the weight plates. Business logos can be added to the weight plates, as well as the nominal weight numbers. Currently, either a molding containing the desired logos/labels or weight number has to be produced for the coating, or engraving has to be performed to show the logos on the surface of weight plates.

(Para 6) If the weight plates are not produced on a mass scale, the molding costs or the engraving costs are oftentimes prohibitively high.

Summary of Invention

(Para 7) Present invention provides a cost-effective method for fitness equipment merchants to put their private logos, poundage numbers and/or other desired labeling on the weight plates, at a lower cost, even though the production is not done on a mass scale.

Brief Description of Drawings

(Para 8) The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate the preferred embodiments of the invention and together with the description, serve to explain the principles of the invention.

(Para 9) A brief description of the drawings is as follows:

(Para 10) Fig. 1a shows a cut-out view of a weight plate having a logo and a number imprinted to the surface of the weight plate, along with its clear urethane or polyurethane layer.

(Para 11) Fig. 2 shows an image of completed product as disclosed in present invention.

Detailed Description

(Para 12) Present invention utilizes a commonly known silk-screen printing technique, which needs no disclosure. Silk-screen printing, in and of itself, is not a patentable invention, except as it is otherwise used and claimed in this application.

(Para 13) To imprint logos or labels on to weight plates pursuant to the method of present invention, first make a silk-screen printing pattern for the logo/label.

(Para 14) Then, print that logo/label, or any other desired poundage numbers onto the surface of the weight plates.

(Para 15) Finally, a clear layer of urethane or polyurethane coating can be applied to the surface of the weight plates, so that the private logos, poundage numbers and any customized labels can be seen through the transparent layer of coating.

(Para 16) In the case where gyms or merchants want to have a certain color appear on the weight plates, as symbolic representation or some form of association, the color can be printed on to the surface of the weight plate first, then go through the steps stated above to complete the imprinting and coating process.